

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 03641 012331Z

64

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01

/138 W

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R 010843Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 186

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS HONG KONG 3641

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, VS

SUBJECT: PRC DELEGATE REITERATES CHINA'S CLAIM TO SPRATLY AND
PARACEL ISLANDS

SUMMARY: THE PRC HAS ROUTINELY REAFFIRMED ITS CLAIM TO
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE SPRATLY AND PARACEL ISLANDS. END SUMMARY

1. IN HIS SPEECH TO THE MARCH 30 SESSION OF ECAFE IN
COLOMBO, ALTERNATE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE CHI LUNG PRO-
TESTED THE FACT THAT ONE ECAFE AGENDA ITEM HAD REFERRED
TO THE HSISHA (PARACEL) AND NANSHI (SPRATLY) ISLANDS AS
"OFFSHORE ISLANDS" OF SAIGON. THE ITEM APPARENTLY RE-
FERRED TO "EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS," RE-
LATING TO AREAS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. CHI DEMANDED
THAT THE SECRETARIAT TAKE STEPS TO CORRECT THE MISTAKE
AND INSURE THAT SIMILAR CASES NOT OCCUR IN FUTURE.

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2. CHI TERMED SAIGON'S ATTEMPT TO OCCUPY THE ISLANDS

AND INCLUDE THEM IN SAIGON'S TERRITORY, AND IN PARTICULAR ITS "OPEN LAUNCHING OF ARMED PROVOCATIONS AGAINST CHINA AND OCCUPYING PRC TERRITORY" AS "THE HEIGHT OF IMPUDENCE." HE WARNED THAT CHINA "WOULD NEVER PERMIT THE SAIGON AUTHORITIES TO ENCROACH UPON HER TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY UNDER ANY PRETEXT," BUT HE REFRAINED FROM REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE MILITARY COUNTER-MEASURES. CHI ALSO DID NOT MENTION THE HEAVY BLOW" DEALT SAIGON DURING THE PARACEL CONFLICT, REFERENCE WHICH HAS APPEARED IN EARLIER PRC MEDIA.
CROSS

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30 JUN 2005

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